Claims:

1-13.   (Canceled)

14.   (Currently Amended) A server Apparatus comprising:

a memory;

a communications interface coupled configured to connect to a wireless communication network; and

a processor configured to perform steps a method comprising:

storing, in the memory, images transmitted through the wireless communication network to the server apparatus, each image having associated metadata categorizing said image according to at least two schemes, wherein

said at least two schemes include at least one of an image date, an image location and one or more image subjects, and

the images are stored in a database at the memory, the database including at least one virtual folder corresponding to each of the at least two metadata schemes, a copy of each image being stored in a single location within the memory, each virtual folder including a pointer to the image location.

15.   (Currently Amended)   The server apparatus of claim 14, wherein at least one of the schemes comprises image date, and wherein the processor is further configured to perform steps comprising:

providing a user interface to select at least one date component comprising a year, a month or a day, and

displaying information regarding images corresponding to the selected date component.

16.   (Currently Amended)   The server apparatus of claim 15, wherein information regarding images comprises thumbnail images of the images.

17.   (Currently Amended)   The server apparatus of claim 15, wherein the processor is further configured to perform steps comprising:

providing a user interface to select a year, and

displaying, as part of the user interface to select a year, an indication of the years for which there are stored images having metadata corresponding to an indicated year.

18.   (Currently Amended)   The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 17, wherein the processor is further configured to perform ~~steps comprising~~:

displaying, upon selection of a year, an indication of the months of the selected year for which there are stored images having metadata corresponding to an indicated month.

19.   (Currently Amended)   The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 18, wherein the processor is further configured to perform ~~steps comprising~~:

displaying, upon selection of a month, an indication of the days of the selected month for which there are stored images having metadata corresponding to an indicated day.

20.   (Currently Amended)   The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 19, wherein the processor is further configured to perform ~~steps comprising~~:

displaying, upon selection of an indicated day, information regarding images having metadata corresponding to the selected day.

21.   (Currently Amended)   The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 15, wherein the processor is further configured to perform ~~steps comprising~~:

providing a user interface simultaneously displaying years, months and days for sequential user selection,

displaying an indication of years for which there are stored images having metadata corresponding to an indicated year,

displaying an indication of months for which there are stored images having metadata corresponding to an indicated month, and

displaying an indication of days for which there are stored images having metadata corresponding to an indicated day.

22.   (Currently Amended)   The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 21, wherein displaying images corresponding to the selected date component comprises:

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designating, upon selection of a year or month prior to selection of a day, a day of the selected year or month in which there are available images, and

displaying, prior to selection of a day, information regarding images having metadata corresponding to the designated day.

23.   (Currently Amended)   The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 22, wherein designating a day comprises randomly choosing a day of the selected year or month in which there are available images.

24.   (Currently Amended)   The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 22, wherein designating a day comprises choosing the first day in a numerically ordered series of days in which there are available images.

25.   (Currently Amended)   The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 14, wherein one of the schemes comprises image location, and wherein the processor is further configured to perform ~~steps comprising~~:

providing a user interface to select a subregion of a displayed region, and

displaying, upon selection of a subregion, information regarding images having metadata corresponding to the selected subregion.

26.   (Currently Amended)   The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 25, wherein the processor is further configured to perform ~~the step of~~ displaying, as part of the user interface to select a subregion, an indication of the subregions for which there are stored images having metadata corresponding to an indicated subregion.

27.   (Currently Amended)   The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 25, wherein the processor is further configured to perform ~~steps comprising~~:

providing a user interface to select a sub-subregion of the selected subregion, the interface comprising an indication of the sub-subregions for which there are stored images having metadata corresponding to an indicated sub-subregion.

28.   (Currently Amended)   The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 14, wherein the processor is configured to perform ~~steps comprising~~:

       grouping, upon designation of stored images by a user, the designated images into a user-defined image folder, and

       grouping, upon designation of one or more image folders by a user, the designated folders into a higher level folder.

29.   (Currently Amended)   The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 14, wherein at least one of the two schemes comprises multiple subcategories, and wherein each image is indexed by each applicable subcategory.

30.   (Currently Amended)   The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 29, wherein the at least one scheme comprises image date, and wherein the subcategories comprise year of image creation and month of image creation.

31.   (Currently Amended)   The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 29, wherein the at least one scheme comprises one or more image subjects, and wherein the subcategories comprises individual subjects of at least one multisubject image.

32.   (Currently Amended)   The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 29, wherein the at least one scheme comprises image location, and wherein the subcategories comprise a region and a subregion.

33.   (Currently Amended)   The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 14, wherein the processor is configured to perform ~~the step of~~ identifying, after selection of an image by a user, other images having metadata in common with the selected image, wherein the common metadata is metadata other than the metadata utilized to initially search for the selected image.

34.   (Currently Amended)   The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 14, wherein the processor is configured to perform ~~steps comprising~~:

       displaying information about images in a first image group,

       receiving a selection of a first image from the first group,

displaying information about additional image groups of which the first image is also a member,

displaying, upon selection from the additional image groups of a second image group, information about images in the second image group.

35. (Currently Amended) The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 34, wherein:

one of the schemes is one or more image subjects,

the first image has associated metadata categorizing the image according to multiple subjects of the image,

the first image group comprises other images having metadata corresponding to one of the multiple subjects, and

the second image group comprises images having metadata corresponding to another of the multiple subjects.

36. (Currently Amended) The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 14, and wherein the processor is further configured to perform ~~steps comprising~~:

providing a user interface to select at least one date component comprising a year, a month or a day,

displaying information regarding images in a date-based group, each image in the date-based group having metadata corresponding to the selected date component,

receiving a selection of an image in the date-based group,

displaying information about first and second subject-based groups, the first subject-based group containing images having metadata corresponding to a first subject of the selected image, and the second subject-based group containing images having metadata corresponding to a second subject of the selected image,

receiving a selection of the first subject-based group, and

displaying information regarding images in the first subject-based group.

37. (Currently Amended) The ~~server~~ apparatus of claim 14, wherein the processor is configured to perform ~~the step of~~ storing images for multiple users, wherein the images are organized by user.

38-47. (Canceled)

48.   (Currently Amended)   A machine-readable medium having machine-executable instructions for performing ~~steps~~ a method comprising:

storing images transmitted through a wireless communication network in a memory, each image having associated metadata categorizing said image according to at least two schemes, wherein

said at least two schemes include at least one of an image date, an image location and one or more image subjects, and

the images are stored in a database having at least one virtual folder corresponding to each of the at least two metadata schemes, a copy of each image being stored in a single location within the memory, each virtual folder including a pointer to the image location.

49.   (Currently Amended)   The machine-readable medium of claim 48, wherein one of the schemes comprises image date, and comprising additional instructions for performing ~~steps comprising~~:

providing a user interface to select at least one date component comprising a year, a month or a day, and

displaying information regarding images corresponding to the selected date component.

50.   (Currently Amended)   The machine-readable medium of claim 49, comprising additional instructions for performing ~~steps comprising~~:

providing a user interface simultaneously displaying years, months and days for sequential user selection,

displaying an indication of years for which there are stored images having metadata corresponding to an indicated year,

displaying an indication of months for which there are stored images having metadata corresponding to an indicated month, and

displaying an indication of days for which there are stored images having metadata corresponding to an indicated day.

51.   (Currently Amended)   The machine-readable medium of claim 48, wherein one of the schemes comprises image location, and comprising additional instructions for performing ~~steps comprising~~:

> providing a user interface to select a subregion of a displayed region, and

> displaying, upon selection of a subregion, information regarding images having metadata corresponding to the selected subregion.

52.   (Currently Amended)   The machine-readable medium of claim 48, wherein one of the schemes comprises image date and one of the schemes comprises one or more image subjects, and comprising additional instructions for performing ~~steps comprising~~:

> providing a user interface to select at least one date component comprising a year, a month or a day,

> displaying information regarding images in a date-based group, each image in the date-based group having metadata corresponding to ~~the~~ a selected date component,

> receiving a selection of an image in the date-based group,

> displaying information about first and second subject-based groups, the first subject-based group containing images having metadata corresponding to a first subject of the selected image, and the second subject-based group containing images having metadata corresponding to a second subject of the selected image,

> receiving a selection of the first subject-based group, and

> displaying information regarding images in the first subject-based group.

53.   (Currently Amended) A system ~~for storing images,~~ comprising:

> a wireless mobile device, including:

> a digital camera,

> a user interface,

> a communication interface <u>configured to communicate</u> with a wireless communication network, and

> a processor configured to perform ~~steps~~ <u>a method</u> comprising:

> generating image files for images created with the digital camera,

> generating a prompt for a user to accept or modify a suggested subject for an image based upon data in another application program being executed by the processor,

obtaining location data from a base station for the wireless network,

assigning metadata to each image file contemporaneously with generation of each image, the metadata categorizing each image according to a first scheme comprising date of image creation, according to a second scheme comprising multiple subjects shown in an image, and according to a third scheme comprising location of image creation, and

transmitting the image files and assigned metadata, via the wireless communication network, for storage at a remote location such that the image files can subsequently be searched based upon the metadata; and

a server for storing image data, comprising:

a memory,

a communications interface coupled to the wireless communication network, and

a processor configured to perform steps a method comprising:

storing images generated by the wireless mobile device and transmitted through the wireless communication network to the server, said storing comprising storing the images in a database in the memory, the database having at least one virtual folder corresponding to each metadata scheme, and wherein each image has at least one entry in each of the at least one folders, a copy of each image being stored in a single location within the memory, each virtual folder including a pointer to the image location.

54.   (New) A method comprising:

in an apparatus comprising a memory , a communications interface configured to connect to a wireless communication network, and a processor, storing, in the memory, images transmitted through the wireless communication network, each image having associated metadata categorizing said image according to at least two schemes, and

storing the images in a database at the memory, the database including at least one virtual folder corresponding to each of the at least two metadata schemes, a copy of each image being stored in a single location within the memory, each virtual folder including a pointer to the image location.

55.   (New) A method according to claim 54, said at least two schemes including at least one of an image date, an image location, and one or more image subjects.

56.   (New) A method according to claim 54, where at least one of the schemes comprises image date, the method further comprising providing a user interface to select at least one date component comprising a year, a month, or a day, and displaying information regarding images corresponding to the selected date component.

57.   (New) A method according to claim 56, further comprising providing a user interface to select a year, and displaying, as part of the user interface selected year, an indication of the years for which there are stored images having metadata corresponding to an indicated year.

58.   (New) The method of claim 57, further comprising displaying, upon selection of a year, an indication of the months of the selected year for which there are stored images having metadata corresponding to an indicated month.

59.   (New) The method of claim 58, further comprising displaying, upon selection of a month, an indication of the days of the selected month for which there stored images having metadata corresponding to an indicated day.

60.   (New) The method of claim 59, further comprising displaying, upon selection of an indicated day, information regarding images having metadata corresponding to the selected day.

61.   (New) The method of claim 56, further comprising:
      providing a user interface simultaneously displaying years, months and days for sequential user selection,
      displaying an indication of years for which there are stored images having metadata corresponding to an indicated year,
      displaying an indication of months for which there are stored images having metadata corresponding to an indicated month, and
      displaying an indication of days for which there are stored images having metadata corresponding to an indicated day.

62.   (New)   A method according to claim 54, wherein one of the schemes comprises image date and one of the schemes comprises one or more image subjects, further comprising:

providing a user interface to select at least one date component comprising a year, a month or a day,

displaying information regarding images in a date-based group, each image in the date-based group having metadata corresponding to the selected date component,

receiving a selection of an image in the date-based group,

displaying information about first and second subject-based groups, the first subject-based group containing images having metadata corresponding to a first subject of the selected image, and the second subject-based group containing images having metadata corresponding to a second subject of the selected image,

receiving a selection of the first subject-based group, and

displaying information regarding images in the first subject-based group.